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Letter dated 14 January 2011 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council

Pursuant to Security Council resolution 1244 (1999), I have the honour to convey the attached reports on the international security presence in Kosovo, covering the periods from 1 April to 30 June 2010 (annex I) and from 1 July to 30 September 2010 (annex II).

I should be grateful if you would bring the present letter and its annexes to the attention of the members of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) **BAN** Ki-moon

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Annex I

Report to the United Nations on the operations of the Kosovo Force

1 April to 30 June 2010

1. The present report is issued pursuant to the Kosovo Force (KFOR) reporting requirement under Security Council resolution 1244 (1999). The report covers the period from 1 April to 30 June 2010. The overall situation in Kosovo remained generally calm throughout the reporting period. However, Kosovo continues to suffer from wide-ranging socio-economic difficulties as well as inter-ethnic tension, mainly in the north and in some Kosovo Serb returnee areas.

2. As at 30 June 2010, the total number of troops in theatre was 9,110. This number included 1,597 troops from non-NATO countries.

Security situation

3. The overall security situation in Kosovo remained generally calm over the reporting period. However, there were some tensions associated with electricity supply, disabling of towers of Serbian-owned telecommunications operators and protests against Kosovo Serb returnees in the Zallq/Žać area.

4. After the return of 30 Kosovo Serb families to the Zallq/Žać area in late March 2010, some local Kosovo Albanian residents staged protests against the returnees. The protests included the throwing of stones at tents of the Kosovo Serb families on several occasions. The Kosovo Police and the European Union Rule of Law Mission (EULEX) provided security for the settlement. Following those incidents, four Serb returnee families left Zallq/Žać.

5. On 23 and 24 April 2010, the Telecommunications Regulatory Authority disconnected elements of the infrastructure of Serbian-owned telecommunications operators in southern Kosovo. Kosovo Serb residents in southern Kosovo staged several protests against the cut-offs. After several days the cellular network of Serbian-owned telecommunications operators was re-established.

6. On 30 May 2010 Kosovo Serbs in north Mitrovica conducted municipal elections, despite warnings from both Pristina and EULEX that they would not recognize the results. Hundreds of Kosovo Albanians, led by war veteran organizations, demonstrated in south Mitrovica against the election, and some Kosovo Serbs demonstrated in north Mitrovica. The groups threw stones at each other. The Kosovo Police used tear gas to prevent physical contact between them.

7. On 28 June 2010, the Saint Vitus Day ceremony held at the Graçanicë/Gracanica Monastery and the Gazimestan Monument drew approximately 1,500 people. No incidents occurred.

KFOR operations

8. Operations in support of operation order (OPORD) Effective Knight (ETO 05) continued, with KFOR maintaining a safe and secure environment and freedom of movement in cooperation with local and international actors, by conducting intelligence-driven operations, using situational awareness, rapid and determined deployment of manoeuvre forces and reserves to deter violence and deal with crisis situations.

9. On 15 April 2010, the Serbian Armed Forces Chief of Staff met with the Commander of KFOR in the context of the Joint Implementation Commission. A second such meeting was held on 3 June 2010.

NATO new tasks

Kosovo Security Force

10. Screening for new Kosovo Security Force (KSF) candidates continued. Initial screening, involving documentation and physical fitness, was completed and a filter board selected candidates for medical screening. The final Selection Board was convened on 17 and 18 May to select candidates for remaining vacant KSF positions. The Board selected about 300 individuals, including 72 minorities and 43 females. Several applicants were placed on a reserve list. During the KSF recruitment campaign earlier in 2010, there had been around 100 applicants for the Cadet School programme; however, only 16 met the criteria for entrance to the KSF and only 3 had the required fluency in English in order to attend the American University in Kosovo. As a result, during the reporting period, the KSF launched a two-week recruitment campaign for the Cadet School programme.

11. On 6 April 10, the Helsinki Fire Brigade started the first of two courses to train members of the KSF hazardous material cell for basic-level capability in hazardous materials response. Further training packages for leadership and core and enabling capabilities remained under development.

12. On 19 April 2010, the KSF conducted a crisis response exercise at the KEK power plant. Simulating a disaster at a power plant, the exercise tested a wide range of core capabilities.

13. The Kosovo Protection Corps (KPC) Resettlement Board was convened by the United Nations Development Programme on 4 May 2010. It was noted that as at 21 April 2010, 1,439 of 1,472 eligible cases had registered in the programme. A total of 1,314 had received a business grant and 71 had gained a job. It was also reported that 212 had found a job outside of the programme. A total of 1,236 ex-Kosovo Protection Corps members received their final severance payments during the month of May 2010.

Annex II

Report to the United Nations on the operations of the Kosovo Force

1 July to 30 September 2010

1. The present report is provided pursuant to the Kosovo Force (KFOR) reporting requirement under Security Council resolution 1244 (1999). The report covers the period from 1 July 2010 to 30 September 2010.

2. As at 30 September 2010, the total number of KFOR troops in theatre was 8,830. That number includes 1,490 troops from non-NATO countries.

3. The situation in Kosovo remained generally calm throughout the reporting period. However, Kosovo continues to suffer from socio-economic difficulties and inter-ethnic tensions. KFOR continued to transform its military posture towards the deterrent presence stance, releasing troops from static tasks, while retaining the capability to maintain a safe and secure environment and freedom of movement to support the Kosovo Police and the European Union Rule of Law Mission as third responder, should circumstances demand.

Security situation

4. On 2 July 2010, Pristina opened a civil service centre in northern Mitrovica, with the intention to provide a number of public services such as the issuance of documents. The opening sparked a peaceful demonstration, which was then disrupted by unknown perpetrators who threw an unidentified explosive device towards the crowd, possibly aiming at the administrative office, killing one Kosovo Bosniak local doctor and injuring several other people.

5. Several days later, Serbian member of the Kosovo Assembly and Secretary of the Serbian Independent Liberal Party, Peter Miletić, was shot and wounded outside his residence in northern Mitrovica.

6. On 21 July 2010, the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia upheld a prosecution appeal and ordered a partial retrial of the war crimes case against Ramush Haradinaj, Idris Balaj and Lahi Brahimaj. The Tribunal decision sparked small demonstrations in Pejë/Pec, Decanë/Decani and Djakovica/Gjakovë.

7. On 22 July 2010, the International Court of Justice issued its advisory opinion. In reaction, some 700 Kosovo Serbs protested in northern Mitrovica.

8. In August 2010, the Kosovo Police Director discharged a number of Kosovo Police officers from northern Kosovo due to poor performance. The discharges were linked to an incident at the Jarinje border crossing point, when several members of the so-called Obraz group forcibly entered Kosovo during the Vidovdan march held in June 2010. Local Kosovo Police officers were blamed by the Kosovo Police Directorate for not stopping the group and for showing reluctance to undertake their duties.

9. On 11 September 2010, following a televised basketball championship match, fighting broke out between two groups of Kosovo Albanians and Kosovo Serbs at the Austerlitz Bridge in Mitrovica. The Kosovo Police and EULEX intervened. KFOR troops were deployed but did not engage in action. During a subsequent

confrontation between EULEX and a group of Kosovo Serbs, two KFOR soldiers were slightly injured as a result of stone throwing.

KFOR operations

10. Operations in support of operation order Effective Knight (ETO 07) continue with KFOR in terms of maintaining a safe and secure environment and freedom of movement by conducting intelligence-driven operations across the territory of Kosovo, using situational awareness, rapid and determined deployment of manoeuvre forces and reserves to deter any violence and to deal with crisis situations.

11. The Commander of KFOR continues to maintain a KFOR presence in the vicinity of the Valac electricity substation and to be prepared to act as third responder in support of the Kosovo Police and EULEX. Currently, the situation at the Valac substation remains calm.

12. The North Atlantic Council decided on 9 July 2010 to authorize KFOR unfixing from the Gračanica, Zočište, Budisavci and Gorioč monasteries. On 23 August 2010, the Kosovo Police assumed guarding responsibilities from KFOR at Gračanica Monastery. No incidents have been reported. Next in the unfixing sequence was Zočište Monastery, where KFOR also passed the guarding responsibilities to the Kosovo Police. The unfixing process started on 19 October 2010, with the actual handover to Kosovo Police on 3 November 2010.

13. On 1 September 2010 at KFOR headquarters in Pristina, the change of command ceremony from Lieutenant General Markus Bentler to the newly appointed Commander of KFOR, Major General Erhard Bühler took place. Along with the incoming Commander of KFOR, the new KFOR headquarters structure has been implemented, reducing headquarters manpower and downgrading the command level from three to two stars.

14. On 17 September 2010, during the NATO chiefs of defence meeting in Bratislava, the Supreme Allied Commander Europe announced his intention to recommend to the North Atlantic Council the move to the so-called "Gate 2" in the transition to a KFOR deterrence presence.

15. On 28 September 2010, the NATO Military Committee visited KFOR. The delegation met with the Special Representative of the Secretary-General, Lamberto Zannier, the Deputy Head of EULEX, Roy Reeve, and the European Union Special Representative, Pieter Feith.

16. During the reporting period KFOR, EULEX, the Kosovo Police and the Serbian Orthodox Church undertook joint planning for the enthronement of Serbian Orthodox Patriarch Irenej.

New tasks of NATO

17. During the reporting period, development of the Kosovo Security Force (KSF) progressed. However, concerns remain over the ethnic balance, shortfalls in mentors and training capabilities and inadequate equipment donations.

18. On 23 August 2010, the second KSF basic training course, with 188 recruits, and the non-commissioned officer basic course, with 39 attendees, were launched. The courses are manned and controlled by KSF instructors. On 30 August 2010, the

non-commissioned officer development course at Grafenwöhr, Germany, started with 12 non-commissioned officers and officer cadets. The leadership course is conducted through a bilateral agreement offered by the United States of America. During the course, students learned about the human dimension role in leadership, communication skills, problem solving and maintaining discipline. The course concluded on 17 September 2010.

19. On 30 August 2010, it was announced that the KSF explosive ordnance and disposal teams would be ready to begin explosive ordnance disposal emergency response tasks in Kosovo. The KSF explosive ordnance disposal operations cell and KSF explosive ordnance disposal teams will be involved in the execution of the response tasks (with limitations) under KFOR monitoring and mentoring as an interim phase, prior to the transfer of the KFOR first responder role on explosive ordnance disposal cases to the KSF.

20. During September and October 2010, a recruitment campaign for the KSF reserve component was launched by the KSF. The recruitment goal is to attract up to 400 applicants for reserve positions. KFOR has supported the preparation and execution process by KSF.

21. During the reporting period, the KSF was actively involved in constructing a new orphanage at Kline/Klina and camp sites for returnees at Dragoljevac and Zaq/Zač. The ground and road preparation for each of the projects was finished with the assistance of KFOR engineers.